**AUCHENHARVIE ACADEMY**

**Head Teacher: Calum Johnston BED (Hons)**

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**Date: 25th May 2021**

Dear senior pupil,

**SQA Alternative Certification Model: Provisional Results 2021**

I hope this letter finds you and your family safe and well. As you know, you have very been busy since your return from the Easter break, completing as much assessment evidence needed to assist your teachers in deriving your provisional grades for SQA courses this session. We are reaching the end of our assessment block and I believe it is important to write to you at this stage, to inform you of the next steps which lie ahead.

Our teaching staff are in the process of marking a wide range of your assessment evidence, based on SQA marking schemes. During the in service days of the 27th and 28th May 2021, all of your teachers will engage in moderating all of this evidence. This means that staff in each department will check and discuss each other’s marking. This stage will allow staff to identify quickly any changes or corrections that will need to be made to the marking process.

Furthermore, where appropriate, teachers from other schools will cross-mark and verify the standard of our staff marking, as our teachers also engage in this process to support colleagues in other schools. The teachers involved in this process outwith Auchenharvie Academy will not know the names of the pupils whose work they will be checking. Further professional discussion will take place to identify any changes, thus strengthening our quality assurance process.

Moreover, The Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) have sampled candidates’ evidence in a range of subjects and their feedback will also be used to guide our marking and moderating processes.

Our colleagues are working extremely hard to ensure that your work is appropriately recognised using this robust and inclusive process of quality assurance. All of these stages are designed to ensure the integrity of the qualifications. At the end of this stringent process, provisional grades across each subject and level will be derived. Finally, further quality assurance checks will take place between Faculty Leaders and the Senior Leadership Team prior to this process concluding.

On Monday 14th June 2021, you will have the opportunity to engage in your final learning conversations with each of your teachers. Teachers will communicate to you on a one-to one basis your provisional grades verbally and will be available to answer any questions that you may have at that stage. These grades are provisional, subject to clerical checks by SQA and will be confirmed on 10th August 2021, when you will receive your SQA certificate.

A letter for the attention of your parents/carers will also be posted on 14th June 2021 with a summary of your provisional grades. Details of the SQA appeals process will also be included in the letter should this be required. Please note that these have not yet been published by the SQA.

As a school that prides itself in placing your wellbeing at the heart of everything that we do, we are acutely aware that this will be a stressful time for you all. This is why we have set up drop in areas across the school, where on that day, you can be further supported emotionally by your Pastoral Care teachers, Depute Head teachers and wider school support staff.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you all. You have all shown remarkable strength and resilience during this extremely demanding time. We are extremely proud of every single one of you. You have embodied our value of determination returning to school after a global pandemic and adapting so well to a new normality.

I am confident that your successes will be duly recognised and I look forward to sharing with you early in the next session, details on how we plan to celebrate your achievements.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Johnston

Head Teacher